

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 19, 2023, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Justin Campbell, and Michele Gonzales; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Paul Hansen; Carter Martin; Bob Silverstein; Rich Phillips; Colin Jacobs and Clarke Linden

At 5:30 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Richard Baker

Changes or additions to the agenda: none

Review and approval of minutes: The Board approved the minutes of the August 29 and September 5 meetings

Public Comment: none

VAST: Carter Martin came to ask for an update on the railroad bed so that VAST can make plans for their trails for the winter. Justin explained that he has a rough draft of a spec to put the railroad bed out to bid, to have a contractor fix it. He is hoping it can be done before winter. Rich noted that FEMA has said they will reimburse for it because it is important for recreation. Carter asked if it has to be up to the elevation that it was. The Board needs to make it good enough for it to be driveable. Justin indicated that there will need to be a site visit with potential bidders.

Nasmith Brook Rd: Justin explained that the Town will seek a temporary easement from Mr. Silverstein to fill the land slip downstream of Bridge #24. Justin has worked with VTrans for a scope of work. Bobbi will send the temporary easement to Mr. Silverstein.

Cassady Road Bridge: Justin has been working with VTrans for specifications for a temporary bridge. The Selectboard approved putting it out to bid.

Flood Repairs: Bobbi will advertise the Cassady Rd Bridge, Nasmith Brook Rd, Railroad Bed, and a debris removal project in Beaver Meadow Brook near Peck Place. Bids will be due October 10th. Site visits will be held on October 2nd.

Folsom Hill Rd: Justin met with Patrick Ross, state hydrological engineer. The State is receptive to any changes that need to be made. The culvert near 19 Folsom Hill Road is only meant to handle a small amount of water. There are other culverts higher up the hill that dump into a drainage area between Covey and the next property to the east. That drainage area is insufficient and ineffective because it has filled in. Patrick Ross thinks we should look at that area from a hazard mitigation and common good perspective. The Town could secure a drainage easement to dig a deeper ditch in that area. They could also dig a ditch along the side of Folsom Hill Road near the Covey property. Justin feels that the Coveys need to let the Town know what their plans are. The Town would be open to addressing the direction the water flows around the house. Rich thanked Justin for the hundreds of hours he has put in to the flood recovery.

DRB Clerk: Asher Barnum has resigned as clerk at the end of October. Rich will ask the DRB to come up with a job description or talk to the Zoning Administrator to see if she wants to take on the extra work.

SASS Ave: The bridge that was received was wider and heavier than what was specified, and the contractor needed to hire a crane and put in extra time and material to do the installation. The State bridge engineer verified that the incorrect bridge was sent so the extra work was necessary. The contractor detailed the required additions, in the amount of \$21,925. Rich moved to approve the change order. Justin seconded – all in favor.

Bean Road: Clarke Linden asked what the Selectboard plans to do about Class IV roads. Rich explained that the Town adopted a Class IV policy and it allows for repairs on Class IV roads that impact Class III roads. Clarke explained that they need to address their driveway but they need to know what the town's plans are so they know what they are responsible for.

Website: Paul Hansen from Ecopixel came to the Selectboard meeting to talk about his software. Bobbi will schedule demos the week of October 17th.

Computer Upgrades: Bobbi received a proposal for substantial upgrades to the town computers, with security upgrades and installation of wifi in the town meeting room. Rich moved to approve the proposal and authorize Bobbi to sign the contract. Justin seconded – all in favor.

Cemetery: The wall at the Dwinell Cemetery fell due to the flood. The cemetery sexton quoted \$5,200 to repair it. The Board approved.

VT Alert: The Board suggested having a training in early December.

Purchasing Policy: The Board added the Building Manager to the policy, with authority to spend up to \$1,000 without approval.

Picnic Shelter: The Board will pay the additional fee to have the shelter stored for the winter. The location will be determined at a later date.

Old Schoolhouse Common: Water is still coming in the elevator shaft. The Board will ask the Road Crew to try to uncover the end of the perimeter drain.

Building Manager: Rich will draft a policy for how to handle repairs. Bobbi will set up an email address for the building manager.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and approved reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the September 19, 2023 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk

DRAFT